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# **INITIATIVE 697**

I, Ralph Munro, Secretary of State of the State of Washington and custodian of its seal, hereby certify that, according to the records on file in my office, the attached copy of Initiative Measure No. 697 to the People is a true and correct copy as it was received by this office.

1       AN ACT Relating to vehicle registration and taxation; amending RCW  
2 46.09.070, 46.10.040, 46.10.075, and 46.10.080; adding new sections to  
3 chapter 46.16 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 46.68 RCW; creating  
4 a new section; and repealing RCW 46.09.110, 46.16.060, 46.16.061,  
5 46.16.063, 46.16.065, 46.16.068, 46.16.071, 46.16.079, 46.16.085,  
6 46.16.090, 46.16.135, 46.68.030, 46.68.035, 82.44.010, 82.44.015,  
7 82.44.020, 82.44.022, 82.44.023, 82.44.025, 82.44.030, 82.44.041,  
8 82.44.060, 82.44.065, 82.44.080, 82.44.090, 82.44.100, 82.44.110,  
9 82.44.120, 82.44.130, 82.44.140, 82.44.150, 82.44.155, 82.44.157,  
10 82.44.160, 82.44.170, and 82.44.180.

11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

12       NEW SECTION. Sec. 1. A new section is added to chapter 46.16 RCW  
13 to read as follows:

14       (1) All existing excise taxes, licensing fees, and tax rate  
15 schedules for all vehicles, whether for personal or business use, are  
16 repealed and replaced with new and revised fee schedules. This  
17 includes repealing the value code, the depreciation factor, and the tax  
18 rate. The registration fees provided in this initiative shall be in  
19 lieu of any personal property or excise tax heretofore imposed on

1 category I through category V vehicles by this state or any political  
2 subdivision thereof, and no city, county, or other municipality. No  
3 state agency shall hereafter impose any other registration or license  
4 fee on any category I through category V vehicles in this state.

5 (2) The new registration and licensing cost schedules become  
6 effective January 1, 2000.

7 (3) All vehicles, regardless of the year, value, make or model  
8 qualify for the licensing charges applicable to their respective  
9 defined categories.

10 NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. A new section is added to chapter 46.16 RCW  
11 to read as follows:

12 Vehicles must be registered and licensed for two-year periods with  
13 the exception of heavy motor vehicles and buses, which are designated  
14 as category I vehicles. These vehicles may be licensed for a one-year,  
15 three-fourths year, one-half year, or one-fourth year period if the  
16 registered owner provides documentation of the time frame for which  
17 licensing is being applied. Otherwise, the registered owner of a  
18 category I vehicle applying for an annual license must pay the two-year  
19 registration fee. The registered owner of a category I vehicle must  
20 pay the two-year registration fee of \$150.00 per year plus the current  
21 state highway weight fee schedule for the vehicle.

22 NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. A new section is added to chapter 46.16 RCW  
23 to read as follows:

24 Personal use trailers, homemade trailers, box utility trailers,  
25 boat trailers, business trailers, and horse trailers are designated as  
26 category II vehicles. Registration fees are determined from the single  
27 or multiple axle weight tables as follows:

28 Single Axle Weight Table

29	<u>Empty Weight</u>	<u>Annual Fee</u>
30	400 pounds or less . . . . .	\$10.00
31	401 to 1199 pounds . . . . .	\$15.00
32	1200 to 2799 pounds . . . . .	\$30.00
33	2800 pounds and over . . . . .	\$50.00

Multiple Axle Weight Table

<u>Empty Weight</u>	<u>Annual Fee</u>
400 to 5999 . . . . .	\$90.00
6000 pounds and over . . . . .	\$150.00

NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. A new section is added to chapter 46.16 RCW to read as follows:

Motor homes are designated as category III vehicles. Registration fees are based on the total length of the unit as determined by the following table; and shall be licensed for a period of two years:

<u>Vehicle Length</u>	<u>Annual Fee</u>
10 feet and under, including fold-out, expandable tent-type . . . . .	\$25.00
11 feet to 15 feet . . . . .	\$75.00
Units exceeding 15 feet will pay a total registration and licensing fee of \$6.00 per foot.	

NEW SECTION. Sec. 5. A new section is added to chapter 46.16 RCW to read as follows:

Passenger cars and pick-ups are designed as category IV, and must pay a total annual registration of \$35.00, Passenger cars and pick-ups must be licensed for a period of two years.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 6. A new section is added to chapter 46.16 RCW to read as follows:

Motorcycles, off-road vehicles, and snowmobiles are designated as category V, and must be licensed under the following registration fee structure:

<u>Vehicle Type</u>	<u>Annual Fee</u>
Motorcycles . . . . .	\$30.00
Off-road vehicles . . . . .	\$10.00
Snowmobiles . . . . .	\$10.00

Motorcycles, off-road vehicles, and snowmobiles must be licensed for a period of two years.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 7. A new section is added to chapter 46.16 RCW to read as follows:

1       The clean air flat tax remains at the rate charged as of January 1,  
2   1998 and may be decreased but not be increased.

3       NEW SECTION. Sec. 8. A new section is added to chapter 46.16 RCW  
4 to read as follows:

5       The department of licensing shall publish and make available  
6 registration fee schedules for all vehicle categories, I through V.

7       The department of licensing shall adopt rules to implement sections  
8 1 through 9 of this act.

9       NEW SECTION. Sec. 9. A new section is added to chapter 46.68 RCW  
10 to read as follows:

11       All vehicles registration moneys collected by the department of  
12 licensing will be disbursed in the following manner: 80 percent to  
13 department of transportation, which amount is dedicated to the  
14 construction of approved freeways, highways, infrastructure, and their  
15 maintenance; 12 percent to the general fund; 8 percent to criminal  
16 justice.

17       Sec. 10. RCW 46.09.070 and 1997 c 241 s 1 are each amended to read  
18 as follows:

19       (1) Application for ~~((annual))~~ biennial or temporary ORV use  
20 permits shall be made to the department or its authorized agent in such  
21 manner and upon such forms as the department shall prescribe and shall  
22 state the name and address of each owner of the off-road vehicle.

23       (2) An application for ~~((an annual))~~ a biennial permit shall be  
24 signed by at least one owner, and shall be accompanied by ~~((a))~~ the fee  
25 ~~((of five dollars))~~ prescribed by section 6 of this act. Upon receipt  
26 of the ~~((annual))~~ permit application and the application fee, the off-  
27 road vehicle shall be assigned a use permit number tag or decal, which  
28 shall be affixed to the off-road vehicle in a manner prescribed by the  
29 department. The ~~((annual))~~ biennial permit is valid for a period of  
30 ~~((one))~~ two years and is renewable ~~((each year))~~ at the end of that  
31 period in such manner as the department may prescribe for an additional  
32 period of ~~((one))~~ two years upon payment of a renewal fee ~~((of five~~  
33 ~~dollars))~~ prescribed by section 6 of this act.

34       Any person acquiring an off-road vehicle for which ~~((an annual))~~ a  
35 permit has been issued who desires to continue to use the permit must,  
36 within fifteen days of the acquisition of the off-road vehicle, make

1 application to the department or its authorized agent for transfer of  
2 the permit, and the application shall be accompanied by a transfer fee  
3 of one dollar and twenty-five cents.

4 (3) A temporary use permit is valid for sixty days. Application  
5 for a temporary permit shall be accompanied by a fee of two dollars.  
6 The permit shall be carried on the vehicle at all times during its  
7 operation in the state.

8 (4) Except as provided in RCW 46.09.050, any out-of-state operator  
9 of an off-road vehicle shall, when operating in this state, comply with  
10 this chapter, and if an ORV use permit IS required under this chapter,  
11 the operator shall obtain ~~((an annual))~~ a biennial or temporary permit  
12 and tag.

13 Sec. 11. RCW 46.10.040 and 1997 c 241 s 2 are each amended to read  
14 as follows:

15 Application for registration shall be made to the department in the  
16 manner and upon forms the department prescribes, and shall state the  
17 name and address of each owner of the snowmobile to be registered, and  
18 shall be signed by at least one such owner, and shall be accompanied by  
19 ~~((an annual))~~ a biennial registration fee ~~((to be established by the~~  
20 ~~commission, after consultation with the committee and any state wide~~  
21 ~~snowmobile user groups. The fee shall be fifteen dollars pending~~  
22 ~~action by the commission to increase the fee. The commission shall~~  
23 ~~increase the fee by two dollars and fifty cents effective September 30,~~  
24 ~~1996, and the commission shall increase the fee by another two dollars~~  
25 ~~and fifty cents effective September 30, 1997. After the fee increase~~  
26 ~~effective September 30, 1997, the commission shall not increase the~~  
27 ~~fee))~~ prescribed by section 6 of this act. Upon receipt of the  
28 application and the application fee, the snowmobile shall be registered  
29 and a registration number assigned, which shall be affixed to the  
30 snowmobile in a manner provided in RCW 46.10.070.

31 The registration ~~((provided in))~~ issued under this section ~~((shall~~  
32 ~~be))~~ is valid for a period of ~~((one))~~ two years. At the end of the  
33 period of registration, every owner of a snowmobile in this state shall  
34 renew his or her registration in the manner the department prescribes,  
35 for an additional period of ~~((one))~~ two years, upon payment of the  
36 ~~((annual))~~ registration fee ~~((as determined by the commission))~~  
37 prescribed by section 6 of this act.

1 Any person acquiring a snowmobile already validly registered under  
2 the provisions of this chapter must, within ten days of the acquisition  
3 or purchase of the snowmobile, make application to the department for  
4 transfer of the registration, and the application shall be accompanied  
5 by a transfer fee of one dollar and twenty-five cents.

6 A snowmobile owned by a resident of another state or Canadian  
7 province where registration is not required by law may be issued a  
8 nonresident permit valid for not more than sixty days. Application for  
9 the permit shall state the name and address of each owner of the  
10 snowmobile to be registered and shall be signed by at least one owner  
11 and shall be accompanied by a registration fee of five dollars. The  
12 registration permit shall be carried on the vehicle at all times during  
13 its operation in this state.

14 The registration fees provided in this section shall be in lieu of  
15 any personal property or excise tax heretofore imposed on snowmobiles  
16 by this state or any political subdivision thereof, and no city,  
17 county, or other municipality, and no state agency shall hereafter  
18 impose any other registration or license fee on any snowmobile in this  
19 state.

20 The department shall make available a pair of uniform decals  
21 consistent with the provisions of RCW 46.10.070. In addition to the  
22 registration fee provided in this section the department shall charge  
23 each applicant for registration the actual cost of the decal. The  
24 department shall make available replacement decals for a fee equivalent  
25 to the actual cost of the decals.

26 Sec. 12. RCW 46.10.075 and 1991 sp.s. c 13 s 9 are each amended to  
27 read as follows:

28 There is created a snowmobile account within the state treasury.  
29 ~~((Snowmobile registration fees))~~ Monetary civil penalties from  
30 snowmobile dealers~~((7))~~ and snowmobile fuel tax moneys collected under  
31 this chapter and in excess of the amounts fixed for the administration  
32 of the ~~((registration))~~ fuel tax provisions of this chapter shall be  
33 deposited in the snowmobile account and shall be appropriated only to  
34 the state parks and recreation commission for the administration and  
35 coordination of this chapter.

36 Sec. 13. RCW 46.10.080 and 1982 c 17 s 7 are each amended to read  
37 as follows:

1 The moneys collected by the department as ((snowmobile registration  
2 fees,)) monetary civil penalties from snowmobile dealers((,)) and fuel  
3 tax moneys placed in the snowmobile account shall be distributed in the  
4 following manner:

5 (1) Actual expenses not to exceed three percent for each year shall  
6 be retained by the department to cover expense incurred in the  
7 administration of the ((registration and)) fuel tax provisions of this  
8 chapter.

9 (2) The remainder of such funds each year shall be remitted to the  
10 state treasurer to be deposited in the snowmobile account of the  
11 general fund and shall be appropriated only to the commission to be  
12 expended for snowmobile purposes. Such purposes may include but not  
13 necessarily be limited to the administration, acquisition, development,  
14 operation, and maintenance of snowmobile facilities and development and  
15 implementation of snowmobile safety, enforcement, and education  
16 programs.

17 (3) Nothing in this section is intended to discourage any public  
18 agency in this state from developing and implementing snowmobile  
19 programs. The commission is authorized to make grants to public  
20 agencies and to contract with any public or private agency or person  
21 for the purpose of developing and implementing snowmobile programs,  
22 provided that the programs are not inconsistent with the rules adopted  
23 by the commission.

24 NEW SECTION. Sec. 14. No terms, conditions, or requirements of  
25 this act may be revised or altered without a vote of the people at a  
26 general election, and any changes must be approved by a sixty-percent  
27 majority of all ballots cast.

28 NEW SECTION. Sec. 15. The following acts or parts of acts are  
29 each repealed:

30 (1) RCW 46.09.110 and 1986 c 206 s 6, 1985 c 57 s 60, 1977 ex.s. c  
31 220 s 9, 1972 ex.s. c 153 s 11, & 1971 ex.s. c 47 s 16;

32 RCW 46.09.110 and 1986 c 206 s 6, 1985 c 57 s 60, 1977 ex.s. c 220  
33 s 9, 1972 ex.s. c 153 s 11, & 1971 ex.s. c 47 s 16;

34 (2) RCW 46.16.060 an 1992 c 216 s 4, 1987 1st ex.s. c 9 s 3, 1985  
35 c 380 s 13, 1981 c 342 s 8, 1975 1st ex.s. c 118 s 3, 1969 ex.s. c 170  
36 s 3, 1969 c 99 s 5, 1965 c 25 s 1, 1961 ex.s. c 7 s 9, & 1961 c 12 s  
37 46.16.060;

1 (3) RCW 46.16.061 and 1985 c 380 s 14, 1984 c 7 s 49, & 1963 ex.s.  
2 c 3 s 40;  
3 (4) RCW 46.16.063 and 1996 c 237 s 1 & 1980 c 60 s 2;  
4 (5) RCW 46.16.065 and 1975 1st ex.s. c 118 s 4, 1961 ex.s. c 7 s  
5 10, & 1961 c 12 s 46.16.065;  
6 (6) RCW 46.16.068 and 1998 c 321 s 32 (Referendum Bill No. 49) &  
7 1993 c 123 s 4;  
8 (7) RCW 46.16.071 and 1996 c 315 s 4;  
9 (8) RCW 46.16.079 and 1986 c 18 s 5, 1975 c 25 s 16, & 1963 c 18 s  
10 1;  
11 (9) RCW 46.16.085 and 1991 c 163 s 3, 1989 c 156 s 2, 1987 c 244 s  
12 4, 1986 c 18 s 8, & 1985 c 380 s 16;  
13 (10) RCW 46.16.090 and 1989 c 156 s 3 & 1986 c 18 s 10;  
14 (11) RCW 46.16.135 and 1986 c 18 s 12, 1985 c 380 s 19, 1979 ex.s.  
15 c 136 s 46, 1979 c 134 s 1, 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 64 s 3, 1975 1st ex.s.  
16 c 118 s 6, 1969 ex.s. c 170 s 7, & 1961 c 12 s 46.16.135;  
17 (12) RCW 46.68.030 and 1990 c 42 s 109 & 1985 c 380 s 20;  
18 (13) RCW 46.68.035 and 1993 c 102 s 7, 1990 c 42 s 106, 1989 c 156  
19 s 4, & 1985 c 380 s 21;  
20 (14) RCW 82.44.010 and 1990 c 42 s 301, 1979 c 107 s 10, 1971 ex.s.  
21 c 299 s 54, 1967 c 121 s 4, 1963 c 199 s 1, & 1961 c 15 s 82.44.010;  
22 (15) RCW 82.44.015 and 1996 c 244 s 7, 1993 c 488 s 3, 1982 c 142  
23 s 1, & 1980 c 166 s 3;  
24 (16) RCW 82.44.020 and 1998 c 321 s 3 (Referendum Bill No. 49),  
25 1993 sp.s. c 23 s 61, 1993 c 123 s 2, 1991 c 199 s 220, 1990 c 42 s  
26 302, & 1988 c 191 s 1;  
27 (17) RCW 82.44.022 and 1998 c 321 s 2 (Referendum Bill No. 49);  
28 (18) RCW 82.44.023 and 1998 c 321 s 38 (Referendum Bill No. 49),  
29 1998 c 145 s 1, 1994 c 227 s 3, & 1992 c 194 s 8;  
30 (19) RCW 82.44.025 and 1998 c 321 s 39 (Referendum Bill No. 49) &  
31 1996 c 139 s 3;  
32 20) RCW 82.44.030 and 1971 ex.s. c 299 s 51 & 1961 c 15 s  
33 82.44.030;  
34 21) RCW 82.44.041 and 1998 c 321 s 4 (Referendum Bill No. 49) &  
35 1990 c 42 s 303;  
36 (22) RCW 82.44.060 and 1990 c 42 s 304, 1981 c 222 s 12, 1979 c 158  
37 s 233, 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 54 s 2, 1975 1st ex.s. c 118 s 14, 1963 c  
38 199 s 4, & 1961 s 15 s 82.44.060;  
39 (23) RCW 82.44.065 and 1990 c 42 s 305;



1 (24) RCW 82.44.080 and 1961 c 15 s 82.44.080;  
2 (25) RCW 82.44.090 and 1961 c 15 s 82.44.090;  
3 (26) RCW 82.44.100 and 1961 c 15 s 82.44.100;  
4 (27) RCW 82.44.110 and 1998 c 321 s 5 (Referendum Bill No. 49),  
5 1997 c 338 s 68, & 1997 c 149 s 911;  
6 (28) RCW 82.44.120 and 1993 c 307 s 3, 1990 c 42 s 307, 1989 c 68  
7 s 2, 1983 c 26 s 3, 1979 c 120 s 2, 1975 1st ex.s. c 278 s 95, 1974  
8 ex.s. c 54 s 4, 1967 c 121 s 2, 1963 c 199 s 5, & 1961 c 15 s  
9 82.44.120;  
10 (29) RCW 82.44.130 and 1961 c 15 s 82.44.130;  
11 (30) RCW 82.44.140 and 1979 c 158 s 237, 1967 c 121 s 3, & 1961 c  
12 15 s 82.44.140;  
13 (31) RCW 82.44.150 and 1998 c 321 s 6 (Referendum Bill No. 49),  
14 1995 2nd sp.s. c 14 s 538, 1994 c 241 s 1, & 1993 c 491 s 2;  
15 (32) RCW 82.44.155 and 1998 c 321 s 40 (Referendum Bill No. 49),  
16 1993 c 492 s 254, 1991 c 199 s 223, & 1990 c 42 s 309;  
17 (33) RCW 82.44.157 and 1994 c 266 s 14;  
18 (34) RCW 82.44.160 and 1995 c 28 s 1;  
19 (35) RCW 82.44.170 and 1990 c 42 s 311, 1987 c 244 s 56, & 1985 c  
20 380 s 22; and  
21 (36) RCW 82.44.180 and 1998 c 321 s 41 (Referendum Bill No. 49) &  
22 1995 c 269 s 2601.

23 NEW SECTION. Sec. 16. If any provision of this act or its  
24 application to any person or circumstances is held invalid, the  
25 remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other  
26 persons or circumstances is not affected.

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